Self-reliance in defence systems

1696. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had set a deadline to become self reliant in defence systems and technologies to the extent of 70 per cent, by year 2020;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that to achieve the above, the involvement of industry is most important; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Government has not set any deadline for self-reliance in defence systems and technologies.

(c) and (d) Industry is being involved in a big way both for developing technologies and for production. As a part of projects taken up by DRDO, the sub-systems and modules are being outsourced to industries for developing, prototyping, assembling and testing. Many industries have mastered many technologies in this process.

Pension for ex-servicemen of less than 14 years service

1697. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a representation from ex-servicemen of less than 14 years service, requesting for some pension;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) the rationale for denying pension to ex-servicemen of less than 14 years service when M.P.s of less than five years service are getting pension; and

(d) whether Government propose to consider this matter sympathetically?